Abstract of the Disclosure

A sensor pad for controlling the deployment of an automobile airbag. Weight sensing pad **10** is used in the seat **54** of an automobile, (not illustrated), to detect the presence of an occupant on the seat. Weight sensing pad **10** is used in conjunction with the vehicle's airbag control module in order to allow deployment of the airbag, in the event of a collision, only if the seat is occupied by a person of a preselected weight. Weight sensing pad **10** is defined by a bladder member **15** having an interior volume subdivided into a plurality of individual cells **42** in fluid communication with each other and that is filled with a non-compressible fluid **18**, such as silicon or a silica gel of medium viscosity. A pressure tube **22** is in fluid communication with bladder **15** and is in further fluid communication with a pressure activated electronic transducer **26** which in turn is in electronic communication with the airbag controller **30**. When a person sits upon weight sensing pad **10**, there is a volumetric displacement of fluid **18** that provides a pressure change in the bladder member. If there is a sufficient pressure change due to the volumetric displacement of fluid to activate transducer **26**, transducer **26** sends a signal to air bag controller **30**. Electronic transducer **26** is selected to generate a signal upon detection of pressure resultant from the volumetric displacement of fluid **18** from bladder **15** expected from the average size adult of approximately one hundred pounds or heavier.